

CHAPTER 3

Meeting Amelia Earhart

'Give me the tablet!' said an angry voice behind Larry. He turned. The pharaoh was behind him and his guards were now pointing their spears at Larry.

'I am Kahmunrah. I am the great king of the great kings and I am alive!' he said loudly.

'Yes, you are,' agreed Larry.

Kahmunrah looked at him uncertainly. 'I'm alive,' he said again. 'Aren't you surprised?'

'I've seen this kind of thing before,' said Larry. 'It's no big deal.' He held out his hand. 'I'm Larry Daley and I'm a friend of your brother, Ahkmenrah. He's a nice guy.'

Kahmunrah's eyes shone with anger. 'Him! My parents gave everything to my stupid little brother. But now it will all be mine! With the tablet I can open the door. My soldiers in the underworld will finally be free!' Then he gave a small smile. 'Please give me the tablet, Mr Larry of Daley.'



Larry thought quickly. 'Sure, here's the tablet,' he said. He gave it to the pharaoh. 'But there's something even better. It's called the Rubik's cube* and it can help you to be king of the world! Come and see!'

Larry took Kahmunrah to the first box in the room. The pharaoh was excited.

'Open it! I want this cube of Rubik!' he cried. Larry opened the box and then stood back quickly. The squid's long arms flew out of the box. Its eyes were big and very angry. One long, moving arm lifted an Egyptian guard high above the floor. Another went round Kahmunrah. Kahmunrah cried out and dropped the tablet – right into Larry's waiting hands.

Larry turned and ran. But he was completely lost. All the rooms looked the same. He had the tablet but he needed to get back to his friends. Where were they? Then he saw the guards in front of him. He looked back. There was the squid! He couldn't escape.

Suddenly a noisy motorbike drove towards him. The rider was General Custer!

'Get on, boy! Get on!' he shouted, and he and Larry rode off very fast.

'What's the plan?' shouted Larry.

'Who needs a plan? Not me!' laughed Custer. His blond hair was flying behind him as they rode through the Egyptian guards. 'Always do things first and think later! You're in good hands, boy!' The general stood up on the bike. 'Yeee-haaa!' he shouted.

WHAM! The general hit a sign and fell to the floor. Larry stayed on the bike but had to stop suddenly. Amelia Earhart stood in front of him.

* 'Rubik's cube' is one of the world's best-selling games.



'What's the hurry?' she asked.

'Sorry. Can't explain now!' A spear hit the bike. Larry got off and ran between the boxes.

Amelia ran by his side. 'Tell me something,' she said. 'Where am I?'

'In a museum,' replied Larry. 'Well, under it. And I'm in danger so it's best to leave me alone.' Spears flew over their heads.

'I'm not frightened of danger,' she laughed. 'I love it!' Amelia was having a good time. 'Come on,' she said and pulled Larry through a door and up some stairs.

Larry and Amelia were now in the National Gallery of Art. There were famous pictures everywhere.

'Why are those strange men trying to catch you?' asked Amelia.

Larry showed her the tablet. 'They want this and they have my friends. I have to find a way back to them.' He was looking for another door.

Suddenly he saw that the people in the pictures were moving. He and Amelia stopped for a closer look. The tablet brought these people to life, too!

'Quick!' shouted Amelia. The Egyptian guards were behind them again. They ran, but this time there was a wall of photos ahead of them. At the last moment they jumped ... and landed in Times Square in New York. They were inside one of the photos!

Larry stood up and looked round. 'Wow!' he thought. Everyone was laughing and dancing. It was the 1940s and everything was black and white! A soldier was kissing a girl. Suddenly Larry knew where he was. He was in a famous black and white photo from the end of World War II.

He looked back. The Egyptians were climbing into the picture. Behind them he could see the museum.

Larry stopped a soldier. 'Can you help us?' he asked. 'Those men are trying to catch me.' He pointed at the Egyptians.

The soldier saw them. 'Sure! Come on, everyone!' he shouted. 'These guys want to hurt our friend here.' The World War II soldiers started to fight the Egyptians.

Larry moved back towards the museum but one or two guards saw him.

'What now?' he thought. Then he had an idea. He ran up to the soldier who was kissing the girl. 'Excuse me,' he said and kissed the girl himself. The Egyptians ran past them.

'When you've finished, Mr Daley ...' said a voice, and Larry felt a hand on his jacket. Amelia was outside the picture and she was reaching in. She pulled him back into the museum.

'Call me!' shouted the girl from the photo.

Back in the museum, Larry and Amelia watched the Egyptians in the photo. They were running towards them again.

'I've got an idea,' shouted Larry. He lifted one side of the photo.

Amelia laughed. 'Yes!' she said, and lifted the other side.

Together they turned the photo to face the wall. Now the Egyptians couldn't get out!

'Brilliant!' said Amelia. 'What's next?'